

PEACE NEWS

Brotherhood : Non-Violence : Freedom

**CIVIL SERVANTS
PREPARE FOR
ATOMIC ATTACK**

A. J. Muste

Page Two.

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CIVIL DEFENCE IS A DANGEROUS ILLUSION

By Professor Kathleen Lonsdale, F.R.S.

Next week Peace News will publish a special four-page supplement on Civil Defence and the Hydrogen Bomb. Here a distinguished Quaker and British scientist, who has declined to undertake work connected with weapons, outlines some of the reasons why responsible citizens are refusing to associate themselves with what has been called the "Fourth Arm" of Britain's armed forces.

A LOT OF OFFICIAL NONSENSE has been written and spoken on the subject of Civil Defence during the last eight years, but it is only recently that it has dawned on local authorities that what they are being asked to do is a plain waste of public time and money.

That does not mean that certain measures, if promptly taken after or before the dropping of atomic or hydrogen bombs, might not save lives, perhaps even a great many lives.

Those "lives," however, are only hypothetically in danger, and that danger can only arise as the result of human sin and folly that could be averted.

The prevention of war would be a much finer, as well as a more certain way of saving the lives that would be endangered or lost by atomic warfare.

There are other lives, however, that will most certainly be lost if we spend £140 million a year on Civil Defence. There are many children in the world dying now of hunger or exposure or preventable disease.

Coming nearer home, there are sufferers from cancer, tuberculosis and other illnesses whose causes are still obscure.

If scientists had more money to spend on research into the causes of these fatal diseases,

those who die of them every year might live until they pass away peacefully of old age. The money now spent on war preparation could much better be spent on decent provision for old age pensions, if in no other way.

The actual plans for Civil Defence are, in any case, hopelessly inadequate for their declared purpose and those who most indignantly refute this are apt to contradict themselves with every breath.

For instance, Lord Douglas (Times, May 27, 1954) said in the House of Lords that:

"There seemed to be much pessimism about defence against air attack. It was even alleged that there was no defence

* Continued on back page

Indo-China intervention would mean disaster

—AMERICAN QUAKERS

IN a statement issued by its Executive Board this week the American Friends Service Committee (Quakers) opposed United States military intervention in Indo-China and urged fellow-Americans to "understand that the legitimate yearnings of Asian peoples are for independence and for a better standard of life."

"These are the fundamental issues," the statement continues, "in the present raging Indo-Chinese revolution and they are not issues that can be met by military threats."

"On the contrary, America's best hope is to channel the revolution in ways that will mitigate its violence and turn it toward democratic ideals. This will require profound changes in present US policy toward the area."

"It means, first, supporting an immediate cease-fire in the present conflict."

"Second, it means continued encouragement to the French to implement their commitments to grant independence."

"Third, it means support of free elections in Viet Nam and a willingness to abide by the results even if they should prove distasteful to the United States."

"Fourth, it means a long-range commitment to provide the new government of Viet Nam, as well as the governments of Laos and Cambodia, with economic assistance."

"We believe that a just and durable peace in Indo-China depends on stabilising the whole Asian scene. This is a task that can best be handled by the United Nations, provided that body can be returned to its original status as a forum for the settlement of disputes."

"We believe that in the present world the attempt to convert the UN into an instrument of collective security courts disaster and that it would be far wiser to strengthen its mediation machinery and support the principle of universal membership."

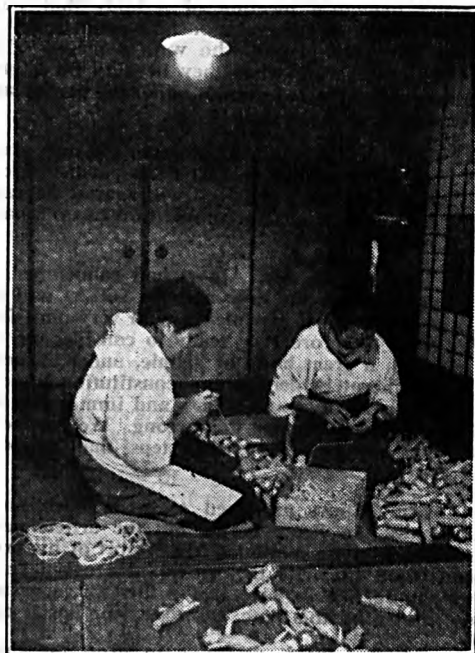
"Obviously, this will require the admittance of Communist China, a step which in our

judgment in no way implies moral approval of its government. Moreover, the rewards of such action would be great, not only in terms of facilitating a settlement in Indo-China, but also in providing an opportunity for face-to-face negotiation in the future."

In releasing the statement, Lewis Hoskins, Executive Secretary of the Quaker organisation said: "The Board felt keenly the necessity for frank and thoughtful discussion by the American public on the crisis in Indo-China, thinking that otherwise we might well 'back into' a conflict without having had the opportunity of considering and understanding the issues involved. The Board's statement is one attempt to stimulate such thought and discussion."

The statement, along with a longer document of background information on Indo-China, will be used extensively during the next months as a basis for discussion in many of the Service Committee's summer activities, notably its peace education programme, which will be carried on through institutes and similar meetings in more than a dozen states.

PROTEST IN JAPAN



The past week has been a week of controversy and anger in Japan. In spite of vociferous protests from the Opposition parties, the Government has passed the Police Centralisation Bill which reverses the existing policy of allowing local bodies to control their own police forces. Opponents of the Bill claimed that it would mean a return to the Police State of pre-war days. It will also have obvious value in the programme of Japanese rearmament. That programme will mean further sacrifices in the living standards of people such as these Japanese doll-makers still suffering from the effects of World War II.

Big demand for H-bomb posters

Nearly four hundred of the H-bomb posters issued by the Peace Pledge Union (Peace News May 28) have been sold.

Many people are using them for individual window and wall display and the PPU announce that they will supply single copies of any title, 6d. post free from 6 Endsleigh Street, London, W.C.1. Sets of the 18 different posters are 7s. 6d.

TRYING TO START A WAR?

The following report appeared in The Daily Express on Whit Monday:

TAIPEH (Formosa), Sunday.—Chinese Nationalist warships and planes have attacked Communist installations in Sanmen Bay, on the mainland coast. —A.P.

What happens if Communist China replies with an attack on Formosa?

Will it be another case of "unprovoked aggression"; pretext for America to go to war to defend her ally Chiang Kai-shek?

Does Britain stay silent while her American ally encourages and supplies the arms for attacks on the Chinese mainland?

CAMPAIGN NEWS

Big H-bomb rally in S. Wales

ALTHOUGH refused permission to see Japanese fishermen dying as a result of exposure to dust from the H-bomb test, Alfred Tucker, Quaker and Peace Pledge Union member was able to give them a message while he was in Japan.

He assured them of the sympathy and thoughts of people all over the world. Alfred Tucker told a conference of 800 in Cardiff last week called in support of the H-bomb National Campaign.

Speaking with him were two MPs, Fenner Brockway and George Thomas, and also the Rev. Kenneth Greet of Rhondda Valley.

The title of the meeting was "The Moral Challenge of the H-bomb," and George Thomas said this could not be separated from the challenge of war itself.

He was appalled at the price innocent people in small islands in the Pacific had to pay for the latest triumph of science.

This triumph, which was supposed to bring us security made us more insecure than ever before.

During the last war the British people, like others, had grown accustomed to all kinds of horrors with the consequence that the dropping of the atom bomb on Hiroshima did not secure the moral revulsion that should have followed. He did not think humanity sufficiently stable morally as to refuse to use the H-bomb.

Christians must make it abundantly clear where they stood at this hour, said the Rev. Kenneth Greet. The idea of a just war was henceforth absurd and untenable. The world had reached the point of no return. Not only the hydrogen bomb but war itself was the essence of evil and should be banned.

Mr. Fenner Brockway, MP, said that American papers were saying that the United States now had inter-continental hydrogen rockets and bombs up to 2,500 times as powerful as the Hiroshima bomb. "Mankind is now at the cross-roads," he said, "unless mankind can have sufficient common sense and moral sense now, civilisation and mankind are doomed."

The way for Britain was not to side with either America or Russia but to attempt to bring about a reconciliation between the two power blocs. Moreover Britain's policy had to be not merely negative against war, but constructive towards removing the causes of strife.

At the end of the meeting hundreds of people volunteered to collect signatures for the National Petition.

Leeds citizens protest against military tattoo

MEMBERS of the Leeds Peace Pledge Union, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Methodist Peace Fellowship, Leeds Peace Committee and the Northern Friends Peace Board (Quakers), have formed a Tattoo Joint Protest Committee to organise their protest against the military demonstration sponsored by Northern Command from June 28 to July 3.

The military authorities have issued 6,500 free tickets for the Tattoo to senior scholars in Leeds to attend the dress rehearsal on Sunday night (June 27). A letter protesting against "this piece of unblushing propaganda" has been sent by the Protest Committee to teachers' organisations and Boy Scouts and Girl Guides organisations in the city.

Twenty thousand leaflets are being prepared by the Protest Committee for door-to-door distribution and poster parades will be held. Intensive Peace News selling will accompany the parades.

Several pacifists from Hull will journey to Leeds to take part in the protest activities. Interested persons are asked to contact the Committee Secretary, Ann King, 36 Ash Rd., Headingley, Leeds, 6.

IN THE NEWS

Provost would not take military salute

Provost Reid, of Saltcoats (Ayrshire), refused to take the salute at a military display in the town.

Hull's new Sheriff and Under-Sheriff are both Peace Pledge Union members. Sheriff Alex Horsley goes with two other pacifists, Canon Raven and Dr. Soper, on a good will mission to Moscow in the autumn. Under-Sheriff Leonard Bird is Chairman of the PPU Development Committee.

The East Yorks Pacifist Youth Action Group distributed 2,000 leaflets when poster-parading in Beverley. They were to parade again yesterday and will follow up with a public meeting. Driffield and Hornsea are to be visited later.

Next registration of conscripts

The next registration of conscripts takes place on Saturday, June 19, when young men born between July 1 and September 30, 1936, are required to register for National Service. The Central Board for Conscientious Objectors, 6 Endsleigh Street, London, W.C.1, would be glad to supply information about the procedure to any young man who intends to register as a conscientious objector.

Weapons they dare not test

WASHINGTON, Monday.

AMERICA has devised two nuclear weapons which are too dangerous to test, Representative James Patterson said today.

Mr. Patterson, a member of the Atomic Energy Committee, said President Eisenhower, on the advice of scientists has ordered only limited development of the devices.

"I call them 'devices'," Mr. Patterson added. "I won't call them bombs. I know what would happen if another war should start. It would mean destruction of us all."

—News Chronicle, June 8, 1954.

"COVENTRY IS KEEPING UP THE STRUGGLE"

—Councillor Roberts

THE British Home Secretary, Sir David Maxwell Fyfe, declared last week that he would meet a deputation of city councillors from Coventry, the city which abolished its Civil Defence committee in protest against the H-bomb.

One of the proposed deputation, Councillor E. A. C. Roberts reporting on the present stage of Coventry's "battle for peace," told Peace News last week:

"The H-bomb exercise at Coventry in the opinion of those who saw it bore no resemblance to the horrific facts of an H-bomb attack." Casualties were feigning slight cuts and shock, and a person was being lowered from the upstairs room of a building still standing after the H-bomb explosion!

Coventry citizens feel that this problem is not being treated seriously by the Home Office said Mr. Roberts. The dominating concern of the Home Office is that the public should not be panicked, but it has done nothing to convince the Coventry local authority that its Civil Defence plans are realistic.

"The Coventry citizens are behind us in our fight for the abolition of the H-bomb. A joint committee representative of many shades of opinion has been formed including religious, trade union bodies and the United Nations Association branch."

"Both the Conservative and Labour Parties produced leaflets on Civil Defence which were given out during the May municipal election campaign."

"Labour's vote was increased over last year, proving that our citizens are with us."

"Our struggle is based on the experience, knowledge and courage of our citizens in war and peace."

PEACE NEWS

3 BLACKSTOCK ROAD, LONDON, N.4
Tel: STAmford Hill 2262 (three lines)

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"TRYING TO OUST US"

IN the Spectator for June 19 last year Mr. C. J. M. Alport, MP (Con., Colchester) wrote:

"Passive resistance cannot be reconciled with the teachings of Christ. Michael Scott's campaign of passive resistance has worsened and gravely undermined the confidence of Africans in government administration. Scott's policy is playing into the hands of those who stand for intolerance and race hatred."

This raised a number of questions in our mind. We found it difficult to understand, for instance, how a politician who had no objection to the use of the atom bomb could hold that passive resistance could not be reconciled with Christ's teaching. We could only assume that in Mr. Alport's view Christ would have made a distinction between methods of violent resistance, including the atom bomb, and non-violent resistance, and that he would have favoured the former and condemned the latter.

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We were particularly interested in the comment because Mr. Alport had been a speaker at the inaugural meeting that launched Racial Unity in February, 1952.

When we heard his speech on that occasion we had some doubt as to what Mr. Alport was doing there, but we took it for granted that he meant to testify in favour of decent race relationships.

We therefore took steps to try to find out what was in Mr. Alport's mind when he made his comment in the Spectator.

We assumed—perhaps we were not entitled to do so—that he endorsed democratic principles. We took it for granted that he would hold that the inhabitants of East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, or even Russia, would be justified in seeking to put an end to the domination under which they were living and we pointed out that it was likely that Mr. Alport would disagree with the pacifist who held that it was undesirable that they should resort to violence to attain these ends.

We also took it for granted that when Mr. Alport condemned the encouragement of non-violent resistance to the Malan racial policy he was not advocating that the native Africans should resort to violent resistance, but that he was opposed to their being encouraged to offer any resistance at all.

★ ★

We found it difficult to believe that one of the spokesmen at the inaugural meeting of a body that was formed for the improvement of race relationships could really be urging that the right thing for people who were deprived of any constitutional means of righting what they held to be a great wrong was to remain passively acquiescent under the perpetuation of that wrong. We remarked at the time:

The pacifist is clear from his own standpoint what such a people should do. It is the pacifist case that a man has a duty to pit his unarmed will against flagrant injustice as also against attempts to compel him to do what he believes to be morally wrong.

This attitude Mr. Alport had condemned. We fully realised that it was not an easy path to follow and that such a policy could break down in violence with very undesirable consequences. We were therefore very ready to consider any alternative method by which a great body of people, under an acute sense of wrong and deliberately denied any constitutional means of righting it, could escape the unmanliness and immorality of remaining absolutely quiescent under that wrong. We invited Mr. Alport to set out in our columns some steps that would give promise of remedy.

Mr. Alport promised to write such an article. This we announced in Peace News, but the article never arrived. Three months later we reminded Mr. Alport of his promise and he again undertook to write the article. He asked for a date by which we should like to have it and this we suggested. The article did not arrive by this date, however, nor has it come to hand since.

We thought it desirable to drop the matter, taking it for granted that Mr. Alport, as we ourselves, had not been able to arrive at any better method than non-violent resistance, and that our readers would doubtless observe that his silence was a good deal more eloquent than any article he could have written.

★ ★

We should not have returned to the matter if Mr. Alport had not pronounced again on the subject of the political means to be resorted to by African natives with no effective constitutional rights.

He has recently written an article, "Challenge to Nehru," for Everybody's which demonstrates that we were mistaken in assuming that Mr. Alport set some store by democratic principles. Indeed, if we are to judge by this article alone, we see no reason to assume that any moral principles at all inform Mr. Alport's political outlook. "Those who are trying to oust us" from Africa are to be condemned. He finds that some aspects of the Mau Mau campaign "appear to be very similar to Gandhi's civil disobedience movement"; and, attributing this to Indian influence, he evidently holds, not that those aspects are to be observed with thankfulness, but that they are to be condemned.

Although "Nehru has always claimed that India has no wish to interfere in the political affairs of other nations . . . it does not prevent the Delhi Government from giving a warm reception to Africans who have made their countries too hot to hold them"—just as Britain is not prevented from giving a warm reception to refugees from Eastern Europe who have made their countries too hot to hold them; but of course that is a different matter.

"There is evidence," says Mr. Alport, "that Indian influence has played a part in the recent troubles in Nyasaland." Of the possibility that the imposition upon the inhabitants of a form of government that they desire to reject and their enforced association with Southern Rhodesia—an association that they fear—may also have played a part, Mr. Alport says nothing. Nor does he say anything about any other evil to which the natives of Africa may feel they are subjected. All he is concerned with is that there shall be no undermining of the British position in the Colonial territories; there must be no support for "those who are trying to oust us."

We see no point in renewing our invitation to Mr. Alport. He has made his position clear. It is no different in any essential from that of Dr. Malan.

Failure of a bank

IT now appears that the private talks between representatives of Eisenhower and Malenkov on the US President's plan for the uranium bank have not produced the hoped-for results.

It was perhaps inevitable that the talks should come up against the old difficulties, and that the Russians should be unwilling to commit themselves to share in any scheme for pooling atomic energy for peaceful purposes unless and until there is an effective banning of all atomic weapons for war purposes.

If the idea of a uranium bank had involved the pooling for every country concerned of all their atomic resources it would have by-passed the difficulty since that would have prevented the use of atomic energy for destructive purposes. American politicians, like all others, have tried to make the best of both worlds—to divert some atomic energy for peaceful purposes while retaining in reserve enough to blow the Soviet Union, if not the whole world, to bits if necessary.

If the only way to save the world from destruction and set free its resources for creative purposes is to ban the use of all atomic weapons, then it is essential for the leaders to get together to secure that. But it is also necessary to recognise that the banning of atomic weapons alone will not suffice. They are only one symptom of the ultimate evil, even if the latest and most deadly form of it, and it is the evil itself which must be faced by complete disarmament and the renunciation of war, if the world is to know peace and prosperity.

It is interesting to note that the possibilities of the peaceful use of atomic energy have been emphasised by the research work of Canadian scientists who now believe that they can build an atomic power station to produce power at a cost cheaper than that from any other plants.

Conscience before Party

THE External Affairs Committee of the French Union Assembly, which comprises members of the French Parliament elected by both Houses plus overseas members elected by their regional assemblies, and which acts as a consultative body of the French Union, has rejected the EDC treaty by 14 votes to five.

Two Socialist Party members defied party discipline by voting against in spite of the instructions issued by the recent Socialist Congress. It is to be hoped that the other 57 Socialist Deputies opposed to EDC will follow their example, and their own consciences, when the debate eventually takes place in the French Parliament.

"No possible doubt whatever"

THE Civil Defence (Armed Forces) Bill introduced into the House of Lords gives power to the Home Office and the Scottish Home Department to train National Service Reservists and a small number of other men including officers and NCOs, in the Civil Defence establishments attached to the armed forces with a view to their mobilisation in time of war as members of Civil Defence.

"To remove all possible doubt" the Bill includes the decision that the duties of the armed forces shall include Civil Defence.

Amongst other doubts removed is one about the real significance of Civil Defence, if indeed such doubt ever existed. We have always claimed that the scheme was a misnomer since it is not concerned with defence against the

BEHIND THE NEWS

destruction inevitable in war (from which indeed there is no defence) but with some rescue work outside the increasing area of total destruction, and with boosting the morale of the civil population and thus of the fighting forces.

Now it is clear that not only can it not be rightly called "defence" but it ceases to be "civil," since it is so closely linked with the armed forces that their work becomes indistinguishable.

Incidentally, it is worth while to ask what becomes of the assertions of the Prime Minister and military commanders like Montgomery if 30,000 reservists a year are to be trained for duties in civil defence mobile columns?

It would hardly be worth while training 30,000 men a year for civil defence unless they would be used at home in the event of war. They are therefore apparently not required in Europe! But how often have we been told that it was impossible to reduce the period of conscription or the number of conscripts if we were to have a sufficient number of trained men available to meet our commitments and a reserve force adequate to throw into the battle in the event of communist aggression in Europe?

Wanted: real neutrals

BRITISH policy at Geneva has undoubtedly succeeded in winning the confidence of South-East Asia, even if it has created difficulties in Anglo-American relations.

India, Burma, Pakistan and Ceylon have been encouraged by Mr. Eden to a readiness to join in guaranteeing an Indo-China settlement, and the fact that Mr. Krishna Menon has returned to Geneva, instead of going to New York, indicates that the Indian Government are still hoping for success.

There emerges more clearly than ever the need for and the difficulty of finding members for a supervisory committee which can really be regarded as neutral.

Since most nations are regarded as being linked, even if indirectly, with either the Soviet or the American bloc it is idle to regard a commission as neutral because it consists of representatives of both sides.

A committee intended to balance two points of view is quite different to a neutral committee, and to appoint a balanced committee would probably only mean a repetition of the difficulties experienced in Korea.

What is required is a commission which is really independent of both sides, and it is that which gives India such a significant position.

It has always been Mr. Nehru's task to keep India in a position in which she could claim to be independent, and it is indeed tragic that as a result, she has not been invited to send official delegates to the Geneva Conference.

Asian countries are no longer going to tolerate any attempt by other countries to guide their destinies, especially when there are grounds for suspicion that such countries want to exploit Asia in the interests of their own political or economic security.

A basis for Korea

MR. MOLOTOV has made a new effort to frustrate what is supposed to be the wish of the American dele-

gation to end the Korean Conference in Geneva, by submitting a five point draft which calls for:

Free elections for the whole country within six months on the basis of a secret ballot, universal suffrage and proportional representation;

The elections to be prepared and conducted by a joint commission of representatives from N. and S. Korea;

Withdrawal of all foreign forces;

An international commission to supervise the elections;

A guarantee by all the powers concerned to secure the peaceful development of the united Korea.

It is idle for the American spokesman to dismiss the plan as a "revamping of proposals already made." The draft represents a compromise, contains what are surely the essential principles of a settlement, and provides a reasonable basis for discussion.

A plan is not necessarily bad because it comes from Mr. Molotov and we may well ask to which of the principles America takes exception and what they propose instead?

Sabotage in Siam

BY persuading Siam to appeal to the Security Council to send an observer group to watch her borders with Indo-China, America has again had its way in spite of the desire of Britain and France to postpone any such action until after the Geneva Conference.

The move is less likely to have arisen from a spontaneous concern in Siam for its security than from American instigation, and the timing of the move is significant.

Such action will certainly not make any easier the difficult task of those who are trying to work out a solution of the Indo-China problem in Geneva. It would appear that America desires to achieve in the Security Council what it has failed to do in Geneva.

There is little wonder that India is seriously concerned with the possible effects of an American attempt to bypass the conference by action in the Security Council where her influence is more predominant.

Scorched earth policy up-to-date

ADMIRAL RADFORD, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staffs, told a secret session of the House Foreign Affairs Committee in the USA on May 26, that if America intervened in Indo-China it should be prepared to use atomic weapons.

According to a member of the Committee, he evaded the question whether he thought the US should intervene by saying that was a political decision outside his province as a fighting man, but that he was certain that the campaign, if started, should be one for complete victory.

He has been supported by two other responsible officers—Admiral Cooke, who is on record as favouring intervention "providing we go in to win," and General Willoughby who has written an article advocating the American use of atomic bombs "to burn a belt of scorched earth across the avenues of Communism to block the Asiatic hordes."

Although too much notice should not be taken of the views of such fire-eaters, the fact that they can be openly expressed and canvassed shows how vital it is for the British Government to continue to influence the American Administration against intervention and to refuse its own support for such action under any circumstances.

Civil servants prepare for atomic attack

AT the time when Eisenhower made his much publicised proposal for a pooling of atomic energy resources for peaceful purposes I expressed the view that nothing much would come of it, since it was based on the wholly erroneous notion that putting a few million dollars into such a project made it possible to by-pass the problem symbolised by the billions which were still to be devoted to atomic weapons.

Nevertheless, the reply Moscow has made clearly indicates that the "rigidity" which people abroad frequently attribute to the US Government's attitude prevails in Moscow also.

The Soviet statement on the subject was not confined to a rejection of the Eisenhower proposal but made a pointed reference to "a growing threat of war with the use of means of mass destruction." There is an equally pointed absence of any suggestion that the Soviet Union would not use such means if "military necessity" required.

Though I am still of the opinion that neither Moscow nor Washington want the struggle to get out of hand, the situation is decidedly not improving. It seems to me somewhat ominous that some one in Washington recently gave the Press information about a clearing house of "Federal employees who survive in the event of an atomic attack on Washington." Government workers were actually given recently "wallet-sized cards and are being told to complete and mail them to the Civil Service Commission's emergency registration centre immediately after an attack!" Eventually all of the more than a quarter of a million Federal employees in Washington will receive them. Apparently places outside Washington where each agency will have its emergency headquarters have been designated. The Pentagon recently even publicised its underground facilities in the Maryland-Pennsylvania border.

Another development which has created a good deal of excitement is the recent arrival of a sizeable shipment of arms from a Polish port to the Central American State of Guatemala whose government is a coalition one in which Communists admittedly play a big part. That this should be possible at our back door is a fairly startling indictment of the failure of the US to show genuine friendship to its near neighbours. And it is likewise fairly startling evidence

of the amazing efficiency of the Communist movement.

Dr. Samuel Guy Inman, possibly the best informed expert in Latin America and a pacifist, has recently pointed out that 70 per cent. of the US investment abroad goes to Latin America. Trade with Latin America is annually more than four times that with the billion people of South-East Asia. The population of Hispanic America is growing more rapidly than any other section of the world. "During the Second World War it was discovered that Latin America's capacity to produce raw materials was so great that a combination between North and South made the American continent self-supporting."

There is also, of course, the little matter of Guatemala being only 700 miles—within easy bombing distance—of

LETTER FROM THE USA — By A. J. MUSTE

the Panama Canal. And there are not wanting Americans who think this strategic water-way may be the Pearl Harbour of World War III.

I close with an item from the world of television. Recently, I learn, the American Broadcasting Corporation presented a play called "Atomic Attack." A very favourable review in The New York Times relates that this account of an H-bomb attack on New York is not located in the metropolis at all and does not depend on the usual sound effects and lurid pictures to produce an impression. The author instead tells his story in terms of the blast's effect on a suburban family in Westchester County, just north of the city, to which I happen to be moving.

The critic concludes his review by opining that "the civilian defence programme seldom has had a more articulate advocate," but adds that the play is unfortunately somewhat weakened in its later scenes "because of diffuse motivation." The basis for this criticism? This: "for no apparent reason (sic) a peace-loving scientist made an entrance and at a child's behest was hidden in the cellar. The resultant philosophising on war, life and science was hardly germane." I forbear to yield to the preacher's temptation to underline the moral!

A world-wide chain of peace-minded people who will give free hospitality for two nights to young people travelling in foreign countries. This is the backbone of—

SERVAS: THE WORK - STUDY - TRAVEL SYSTEM

THE Third Conference of Servas Committees, the world organisation of the Work-Study-Travel system, was held recently at Epe, Holland. It was attended by 22 persons including representatives from Holland, Germany, Britain, Denmark, Sweden, France and Switzerland, and observers from India and the West Indies.

Reports were received from all secretaries, and the figures below show the relative strength of the movement in various countries in numbers of Open-Doors (as the volunteer hosts are called):

Norway 26, Sweden 14, Finland 3, Denmark 60, Germany 135, Holland 24, Britain 125, France 9, Switzerland 13, Austria 5, Italy 1, Yugoslavia 1, Greece 1, India 63, USA about 1,000.

"Hitch-hikers' alley"

By far the largest proportion of travellers came from Britain and Germany and these two countries and Denmark and Holland were the most visited. Study purposes showed a wide variety: two Indians at present in Denmark will study farming methods and co-operatives, a theological student observed the social services of Holland, a German student of agriculture came to England to study the Advisory Service, another went from London to learn about the Kibbutzim (communities) of Israel.

Then there were the others who used the system merely to travel and to make friendly contacts in other countries. This has been of great value and will continue to be so, though there are certain tendencies to be guarded against—the easy, obvious itinerary, the temptation to visit too many countries, the gaining of superficial impressions. To counteract this the Danish Committee, whose country has become the "hitch-hikers' alley" to Scandinavia, will this year suggest planned tours to



International group at Epe

those who do not submit satisfactory plans themselves.

"Initiation Tours" are the latest development of the British Working Committee (135 Foden Rd., Birmingham), so that British youngsters hesitating about going abroad for the first time can have the benefit of a preliminary study-tour in their own country.

In America Bob Luitweiler is showing the recently completed film of the life of Gandhi, and the money earned will be used to help Indian constructive workers to travel to Denmark to learn agricultural methods and study in some of the folk-high-schools.

New experiment in Britain

Work opportunities have not yet been sufficiently developed, and the help of all hosts is needed in finding temporary jobs for travellers.

It was thought that applicants who could well afford to pay for accommodation should not be debarred from the benefits peculiar to the open-door scheme. The British Committee will experiment with a plan to enable them to contribute to a fund which will be used to make possible open-door offers by groups who would otherwise find it economically impossible.

The German Secretary brought up the application of a French soldier of the army of occupation to be allowed to visit German Open-Doors. Some opposition was expressed, but the immediate response of one German host present was "Why not?" It was agreed that the soldier might be accepted if he undertook to explain his circumstances to hosts when writing beforehand.

The Conference wondered whether, when travels are over, travellers lose touch with Servas, and discussed practical methods of linking ex-travellers for the exchange of ideas. It has always been felt that the chief value of the Work-Study Travel System will be seen in the activities of its returned travellers.

Servas is not merely a travel system but a piece of practical peacebuilding. Bob Luitweiler tried to express this idea in this statement which he sent to the Conference:

"Servas seeks to build bridges between the small groups all over the world that are working for a human centred society based on creative vocation, non-violence and universal social responsibility."

Church and the H-bomb

"We believe German rearmament is wrong for the same reasons that we believe it is wrong for Britain, the USA or the USSR to maintain armaments," says a statement issued by the Anglican Pacifist Fellowship (29 Gt. James St., W.C.1). "As Christian pacifists we rely not upon military power, but upon the power of God." On the H-bomb, the APF declare: "We still look for a declaration from Church leaders that war is wrong for Christians."

SWISS APPEAL TO WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Stand firm on peace

The Religio-Social Association of Switzerland proposes to submit the following "Testimony" for a discussion on "The Christian Churches and the Christian Attitude to War and Peace" at the conference of the World Council of Churches when it meets at Evanston, USA, in August:

1. In this era of atomic bombs and other satanic means of mass annihilation war cannot be justified under any circumstances, because it is deliberate genocide and an attack on God's creation.

2. Every mature and reasoning person and, indeed, every child knows that even a war of defence or a so-called police action is but deliberate mass murder. Today the use of those terms is tantamount to a confession of either helpless acquiescence, hypocrisy, lying, or a belief in the method of violence.

3. Freedom, democracy, humanity and justice can never be saved or defended by mass murder, which is a sin against God. To pretend that they can be so saved or defended is to show a complete surrender to, or a belief in, the power of evil.

4. When nations confront each other suspiciously and scornfully and are possessed by an irresponsible mania for more and more armaments, it is clear that governments and peoples have failed to apply their conscience, their mental abilities, their common sense and their moral force to the solving of spiritual, political, economic and human difficulties.

5. The deep-seated, world-wide social revolution, of which Communism is only one symptom, is a judgment and a warning because we have disregarded the religious and social message of the New Testament which culminates in the teaching of Christ.

Moral force

6. Today, those who call themselves Christian are in duty bound to close their ranks against the spirit of violence, the adoration of Mammon and those easy slogans used to justify sinful preparations for war. Such slogans are "war of defence," "preventive war," "just war," "police action," "deterrents," "negotiation from strength," "war rather than Communism," etc. We must not allow ourselves to be discouraged by those who talk disparagingly of "extreme or doctrinal pacifism" in connection with the struggle against those forces which secretly poison the minds of nations, for that struggle is the duty of a true community of Christ.

7. It does not matter whether "the others" are Christians or not. What does matter is whether we, who call ourselves Christians and base our claim on faith, baptism and sacrament, are Christians to the fullest possible extent. If we intend to buy security through violence and war, we should frankly admit that our faith in Christ is weak or invalid. If we do believe in Christ, we must prove it by following Him. We owe such proof especially to those whom we choose to call "godless."

8. God alone is the judge of individuals and nations. We cannot hide ourselves from Him, and all the thoughts and schemes of the human heart

are known to Him. Can we hope to stand before Him as Christians if we do not give service to, and witness for, the power of judgment and salvation embodied in His Testament?

Inescapable duty

9. The inescapable duty of the individual who calls himself Christian, and of the whole community of Christ is to stand firm and in the question of peace point to Him in whom they put their trust as the way, the truth and the life. Spiritually and in practice they must lead their peoples in the unconditional renunciation of war and all preparations for war. Only thus can they be of help to their Christian as well as their non-Christian brethren in truth and love, and take the responsibility before God for the fate of the nations in our time, so that they may seek and find the way to peace according to the prophecy and the fulfilment in Christ.

—Translated for Peace News from Das Andere Deutschland by Hilda von Klenze

PERADVENTURE HE SLEEPETH

Of old, men drummed their drowsy Gods awake,
assailed them with loud brass, that they might take
a moment's interest in the simple folk
who knelt to pray round the blue altar-smoke:
and, hadst Thou ears to hear, so would I now
assault Thee with my loudest noise, O Thou,
the Eternal Sleeper! for behold, this world
is but the pageant of Thy dream unfurled:
from the first fleck of mist that stained the sky
to the last glimpses of futurity . . .
and, brief between these terms, our sad mortality.

O, dost Thou never tremble at the things
that are the fruits of Thine imaginings?
the vacant vast millenniums rolling on
while cooling fires condense the star to stone,
the slow long lapse of empty centuries
while barren mountains stare on barren seas;
the monstrous births of hunger, lust and strife,
Hell's bloodhounds on the wounded heels of Life;
and man, ay man! the sorrow and the pain,
the sin-corrupted heart, the maddened brain,
the futile hands that labour to no end,
the blind brutalities that turn and rend;
good's polder-flats deep-drowned beneath the tide,
the ever-mounting seas of greed and pride;
greatness of mind and littleness of soul,
excess of power and lack of power's control:
man, to whose trust were given the keys of fate,
yet self-imprisoned in his tower of hate,
murderer of hopes to which himself gave birth—
man, the despair of Time, the paradox of Earth!

O Dreamer of the World! canst Thou behold
unmoved the dreadful phantasy unrolled
age upon age before Thy visioned sleep,
sick exhalations from the tortured deep
of Thine imagination? Not so we,
poor phantoms in Thy dreadful phantasy,
dreams within dreams, and wandering shadows caught
a moment in Thy shadowgraph of thought!
For we look on with wiser eyes than Thine,
justice more sharp, and pity more divine,
creating from the very stuff of woe
a nobler Godhood than Thyself canst show,
and hoping against hope that some far day
shall sweep the nightmare of Thy world away.

Therefore, like them of old, I, too, would bear
drums to assault Thee in Thy fast retreat,
and, in the name of all that live and die,
pierce Thy still heavens with one last loud cry:
Awake, O God! Awake! and prove the world a lie.

—JOHN REDWOOD ANDERSON.



Dutch hosts and friends

NO CRUSADE WITHOUT A CROSS



THE trouble about so many people is that they want peace, but at the same time cling to many of the things which make for war.

The weakness about so many peace activities is that they are too often a form of escapism, drugging people into the sense that they have done something effective when they have, for instance, signed a petition, but never challenging them as to whether they themselves are prepared to pay the price of peace. For peace is a costly business, not indeed to be seen in terms of the price of armaments, but in the renunciation of all that makes for war.

That is the main difference between pacifism and what often passes for peacemaking. At the heart of pacifism is the renunciation of war. But the pacifist must pay for this renunciation of war just as the supporters of militarism have to pay for the acceptance of armaments.

There may be many pacifists who want a crusade without being prepared to pay for it. I, therefore, want to challenge everyone who reads this.

Is our campaign for total disarmament really costing you anything? Does a cross come in where your crusade is concerned? What have you denied yourself to ensure its success?

I know full well that the cost is not to be reckoned only in terms of cash, but it must and will involve that if we are really in earnest.

Need I say more, except that I have already received one 10s. note as a token of "repentance and reparation," and that the Peace Pledge Union Headquarters Fund is eagerly waiting to hear from you? Please do not disappoint us.

STUART MORRIS
General Secretary.

Our aim for 1954: £1,000
Amount received to date: £193

Donations to the Peace Pledge Union should be sent marked "Headquarters Fund," to the PPU Treasurer at Dick Sheppard House, Endsleigh Street, W.C.1.

THERE WILL BE FOUR BILLION OF US IN 1984

CAN the resources of the earth support a growing population which is expanding at the rate of 30 million every year?

The answer depends on the economic and social setting in each individual country, according to a United Nations study which summarises the findings of hundreds of scientific writings on population trends.

The world population is now about 2,500 million. If present tendencies continue, within the next 30 years the population may approach the 4,000 million mark.

Population growth, according to the UN Department of Social Affairs, has been speeding up in many regions of the world because of the spectacular success of modern sanitation and public health services in cutting down death rates. However, economic and social progress depends on matching this growth with a greater increase in the production of food and other necessities.

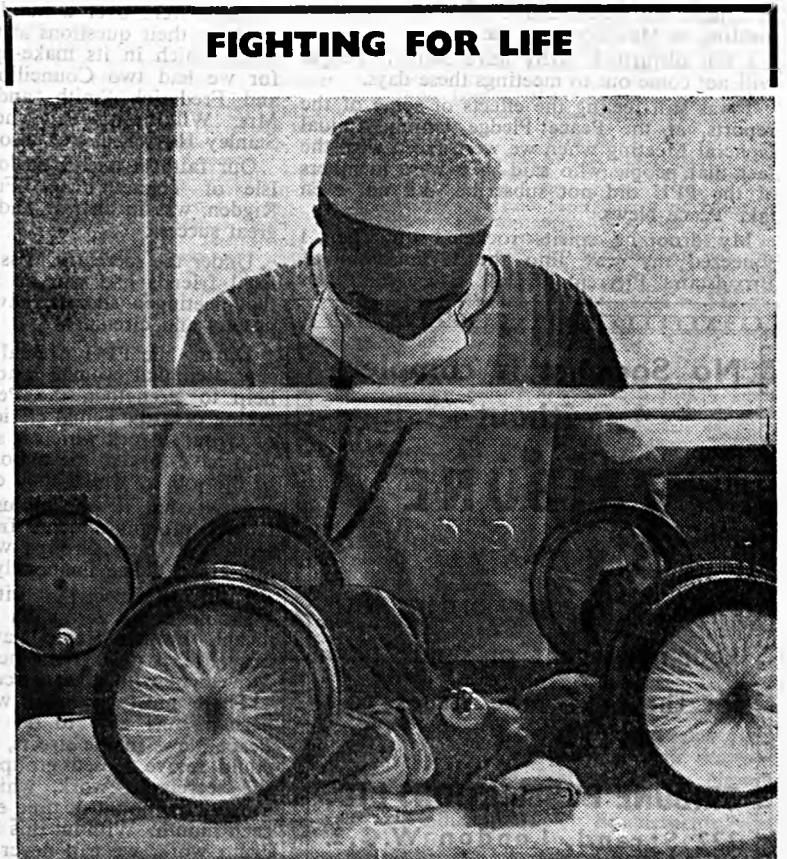
The study rules out emigration as an effective solution to the problem of large, densely populated under-developed countries. "The challenge," the survey says, "will be met in the measure that the less developed countries are able to increase agricultural production and to absorb their growing manpower in industrialisation."

SOME FACTS

World population has jumped 500 million in the last 20 years. By mid-1952 it stood at 2,533 millions.

Densities of population per square kilometer: Hong Kong, 2,221; England and Wales, 291; United States, 20; Japan, 232.

Right: The incubator baby shown may be indifferent to the fact but medical science is constantly looking for ways to protect these babies through the first crucial weeks of life. Outstanding spot in this field of medicine is the Centre des Prematures de l'Ecole de Puériculture, in Paris, with which the World Health Organisation of the United Nations has been working. The Centre physician checking the infant's heartbeat is Dr. Jacques Michelin, who recently visited the United States on a WHO fellowship to observe the latest methods used there in treating prematurely born infants. In some countries, youngsters like the one shown here account for one-twelfth of all births.



How Ramlal got his bullocks

FILLING A GREAT
NEED IN INDIA

by

Shri Partap Chand

A CREDIT scheme for the benefit of the Indian villager has been launched in ten villages within the area of the British and American Quakers' Social and Technical Assistance Project at Rasulia in Central India.

The scheme, which is being carried out in association with the US Technical Co-operative Administration, will meet the emergency needs of villagers previously met by the landlord (*malguzar*) or moneylender; but it will not replace what are called *taccavi* loans made to cultivators by the government.

A village development society has been established in each village and members will be able to draw on the credit available in the form of cash, seed, manure, bullocks, or equipment, subject to the condition that they pledge themselves to educate their children, to become literate themselves and to take certain precautions in the matter of public health.

I had a unique experience when I went recently to the cattle bazaar at Itarsi to buy a pair of bullocks with a Palampur farmer, Ramlal.

Ramlal owns about 12 acres of land but no bullocks.

He has to rent his land to some sharecroppers on a 50/50 basis, who work it neglectfully: at least much to his dissatisfaction. But poor Ramlal always had to eat humble pie, he gets only very little from his land: which makes it necessary for him to find some extra work in or outside the village, but this brings in only a small amount. His brother also works and both of them can hardly provide enough to meet the three necessities of life, food, clothing and shelter.

Ramlal was born a poor man. When his father died he inherited 12 acres of land, a house, and a debt of 900 Rupees (£67 10s.) to the *malguzar*. The *malguzar* always had an eye on Ramlal's land. Ramlal had such a love for it that he decided that he would leave no stone unturned to save it. So he worked for the *malguzar* for about 10 years and paid his father's debt with interest, bit by bit. After the abolition of the Land Holding System he heaved a sigh of relief because the *malguzar* was a constant threat to his land. He decided many times that he should somehow get a pair of bullocks to plough his land himself.

Several times he applied for *taccavi* loan from the Government but somehow never got it. In the last meeting of the village development society he made a request for some credit from the supervised credit scheme. The committee unanimously recommended that Ramlal be given credit enough to buy a pair of bullocks. It was agreed that I should accompany Ramlal and his brother (and of course some other village people) to the weekly cattle bazaar at Itarsi to help choose a good pair, and make the payment on behalf of Ramlal.

We went round looking at every animal in the bazaar as intimately as possible, at the same time enquiring about the prices—which ranged from £30 to £45 per pair. At first we chose a pair which cost a little less than £30 but when we tried them on our cart they proved unsatisfactory. In the end we chose a

THE HERITAGE OF INDIA



India News

In spite of the many difficulties facing the Indian people today, their spirit is one of pride and hope—pride in what they have already achieved since the liberation of their country from foreign control; hope in what is still to come. The great heritage of Indian culture is cherished by them all. Here is a picture of an Indian orchestra broadcasting from All India Radio, New Delhi.

pair which pleased every one by appearance as well as by trial on the cart.

The bargain was struck at £33. 15s. The payment was made and the purchase followed by a ceremony of handing over. The seller and the buyer embraced each other and the seller handed over the reins of the bullocks by his right hand to Ramlal who also took them in his right hand. Ramlal was all smiles. A glow of contentment was clearly visible on his face and his brother's face. Both the brothers touched the feet of the bullocks in devotion and vowed that they would feed them well.

After this was over both the brothers turned to me. They were both moved. Tears of joy could be seen in their eyes. They said that they had never owned a pair of bullocks all their life and that they did not know how to thank me. This, they said, would be a turning point in their lives.

Then they began to tell me what they would

do after they got home. They would wash the bullocks with soap and water from head to hoof, and ceremonially feed the bullocks with seven different feeds. They will distribute molasses to all their friends and give a four anna (4d.) silver bit to a daughter.

They told how they would keep their bullocks better than any other farmer in the village. They also were full of praise for the bullocks; how beautiful they were, how well formed their muscles, and how they would be a distinguished pair in the whole village.

All these things seemed to come right out of their hearts. As I was sharing with them in their extreme joy I was myself very much moved. I had never imagined in my life that a pair of bullocks worth just over £30 could mean so much to a person. It was then that I understood why the purpose behind the supervised credit scheme is so very important. It certainly fills a great need.

GIVE THE WORLD AN OBJECT LESSON IN PEACE-MAKING

—Laurence Housman

The following is the message sent by LAURENCE HOUSMAN, playwright and Peace Pledge Union Sponsor to the "Ban the H-bomb" meeting in London on May 18,

PACIFISTS do not need to be told that the dread of what may come from the continued manufacture and storage of the Hydrogen bomb, which now has the whole civilised world in its grip, is the direct product of a general belief that war is the only ultimate defence of nation against nation.

But what is new is the recognition—even by non-Pacifists—that war has become so devastating that, in the next world war, if it comes, there will be no victory for either side, and even very doubtful survival at the end of it.

All its glory, and even its old usefulness has gone out of it.

Where Pacifists differ from non-Pacifists, is that we believe there is a cure for it, and they don't.

But for Pacifists the great difficulty remains, that we, believing also in Representative Government, know that we do not represent the mind of the majority of this or any other Nation. Our call for National disarmament would fall upon deaf ears. But there is one thing which, I believe, we can, (with some hope of success) ask our Government to allow us to offer; and that is a Peace Army, voluntarily organised, to give the world an object lesson in Peace-making.

True peace-service

You will remember how, after the First World War, the Society of Friends was accorded, for its Peace Testimony and its voluntary services of good-will and reconciliation, a pass throughout all Europe which was accorded to no other religious denomination; for every Nation which believed in war recognised true Peace-Service when they saw it in operation. And I believe it is within our power to set an object lesson in Peace Service before their eyes which they will be forced to recognise.

This is already being done on a small scale by the International Voluntary Service for Peace. It is in our power to do it on a larger scale.

Throughout this only half-civilised world there are whole tracts of war-devastated country; ruined cities, smashed industries, and half-starved populations, and we are faced with the problems of starvation steadily increasing with the rising birth-rate. All that we need ask from our Government is a grant of free passports and other facilities to make our service more effective. I think we have every reason to hope that these will be granted to us.

May I remind you how dangerously successful our military authorities found two examples of Peace-making which were provided for them not by Pacifists but by our soldiers during and after the First World War? One was the Christmas Truce in 1915, when in co-operation with the enemy they imposed an unauthorised 48 hours truce, played football together, exchanged gifts, and sang songs. It

● Continued on next page

MURIEL LESTER ON CHINA

On May 21 we published an article based on the report of a speech delivered by Muriel Lester in Palo Alto, California. Muriel Lester feels that in a number of respects this did not give a satisfactory account of what she had said.

She remarks: "Evidently being tape-recorded is something to be treated with more respect in future and with caution." We have asked her to let us have her own comments on her stay in China. She is most concerned with what may be inferred from her comment that "China has remoulded her human material," and her first comment relates to this.

I USED the word "remoulding" to apply to the Western as well as to the Chinese process.

During my three months lecture tour I made a point of conveying to American audiences that, deplorable as is the Chinese regimentation of opinion, the burning of Confucian books, and the break-up of family loyalty, Western governments also are forcing people into unnatural and detestable action.

I reminded them of Bill Davidson's article in *Colliers Weekly* in which he described the various methods, mainly psychological, favoured by the American military authorities to break-down the average soldier's inhibition against bloodshed. (Reprinted in *Peace News*, August 21 and 28, 1953. Ed.)

He quoted their War Office figures to show that in any given action of World War II, only 12 to 25 per cent. of all the combat soldiers who were armed and in a position to fire their weapons at the enemy were able to pull the trigger. In Korea the courage has been raised by dint of intensive effort only to a maintenance of 50 per cent. The article then quoted General Marshall as saying: "We have gone as far as we can go in the perfecting of weapons. Our only chance to move forward is to remould the human material."

★

I saw a good deal of my old friend Rewi Alley the New Zealander who spent nearly all his life in China, showing up murderous conditions of child labour in factories, both Western and Chinese; rooting out hidden evils throughout Shanghai, rescuing children from the cruelty and corruption that go hand in hand with Landlordism and war-lord rule. He was mainly responsible for the Chinese Industrial Co-operative movement and for the famous Baile School which he and George Hogg moved into the Far West under pressure from the advancing Japanese in the winter of '44 and '45.

I asked him about the new honesty. Could it be true that stealing was now unknown? He thought so, and told me that one day coming out of a book-shop he had dropped a few notes in the street. As they totalled only a shilling or two he did not notice his loss. Next time he walked that way, two people hurried out of the shop to meet him and conducted him to the local policeman, who gravely handed him back his notes and with a severe reprimand, adding "You must be more careful of the people's money."

"The peoples money." Nothing must be considered as merely relative to oneself. Always to consider the good of others is the desired norm of personal and civic behaviour.

★

This view is sedulously fostered at the neighbourhood group meetings. Though often boring to an extreme, these are held at least once, often twice and occasionally three times a week. It is hoped they will cure people of ingrained anti-social tendencies.

Do you draw back from actual contact with a dirty person or an offensively diseased one, or a drunk? If you have to sit next to such a one on a crowded bench for a few hours, a powerful incentive is generated for getting rid of the noisome symptoms. If an intellectual has to sit, doing nothing but listen to a weekly newspaper, full of propaganda and morality being read aloud from the first word to the last at a tempo sufficiently deliberate for the most illiterate to understand its message, he will probably show more zeal in helping the spread of mass education.

This constant underlining of what mass comradeship implies has created an atmosphere reminiscent of puritism. The moral is being pointed out, and the lesson educed on every occasion.

★

At Church in Peking I met old friends and made some new ones. I was given a good welcome also at the theological college. I was told "We Christians are fewer in number but stronger in spirit." They begged me to join the World Peace Movement. They said the Church was enthusiastically behind it. I explained why I could not join, since I believe forgiveness is basic, hate a boomerang, and fighting a sin as well as a mistake.

After at least ten minutes of eager, almost passionate, persuasion my friend accepted the refusal, but challenged me still: "Will you pray for it every day?" I was glad to accept this responsibility.

★

The new China seemed to me both good and bad, but not Russian dominated. It has brought orderliness to the country, and regained after a century, control over its own territory. Is the price paid too high? Literally, God only knows.

Westerners have been in China a long time. Thousands of us Christians have honestly tried to help the people set up a better government for themselves, and to get hospitals, schools, at work everywhere; but we failed to get the millions fed. Dare we then blame those who are doing that miracle?

According to the Sheep and the Goats parable the Chinese leaders may have better hope on Judgement Day than we.

Perhaps our propaganda as well as theirs is a defiance of God, who is Truth.

MINNIE PALLISTER writes

In praise of secretaries

WHEN I arrived at Broadstairs at seven o'clock one evening, I had done five hours on buses, and a crowded afternoon meeting at Maidstone on the way.

I felt dispirited. Why have come? People will not come out to meetings these days.

I was still feeling the effects of some of the reports, at the Peace Pledge Union Annual General Meeting when we were faced with the fact that people who said they were members of the PPU did not subscribe, did not even take Peace News.

My drooping spirits rocketed up when I squeezed my way into the Gymnasium of Broadstairs' Pierremont Hall. Every chair was

full, and late comers were standing all round the edges.

There were over a hundred people present, to shoot their questions at the "Brains Trust" team, which in its make-up was encouraging, for we had two Councillors, Kingston Jones and Frederick Smith, and an ex-councillor, Mrs. Wilkinson JP. The question master Stanley Haywood, was also a JP.

Our faithful friend, so long a worker in the Isle of Thanet Peace Fellowship, Mr. W. Rigden, was in charge, and the evening was a great success.

Under the secretary Miss Frances Kemp, the local friends had worked for weeks to make the meeting a success, advertising it both by posters and circulars.

During the PPU Annual General Meeting I suggested that women who had retired could help to strengthen the Peace Movement, by taking over the actual clerical day to day work of Groups, work which is so difficult for those who have to give the major part of their time to the job by which they earn their living.

I felt that it was no use demanding spectacular pronouncements from Dick Sheppard House, if local Groups were not supporting our Head Office financially and otherwise.

I did not expect that within so short a time I should come across an example of what I meant. Frances Kemp, having retired from a busy life, is now giving her time to the Peace Movement with great success.

There must be other women who do not perhaps feel able to do poster parades, sell Peace News in the streets, and so on, but who could revive lapsed groups if they would do the secretarial work, which means devoting a definite amount of time each day, each week, each month. Without this kind of steady humdrum work, we can never be a sound Movement, for our stability depends upon it.

No Socialist is complete
without

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Talking of books...

By Robert Greacen

Tolstoy: A Life of My Father, by Alexandra Tolstoy, Gollancz, 30s.
The First and Last Freedom, by J. Krishnamurti, Gollancz, 13s. 6d.
The Plough, Spring 1954, 2s. 6d. Chanticleer, Number 4, 2s. 6d.

IN 1855, a young Russian nobleman, then an Army officer with a taste for women and gambling, wrote in his diary:

An army career is not for me, and the sooner I extricate myself from it so that I can devote myself entirely to literature, the better it will be.

Leo Tolstoy did extricate himself from the Imperial Army; and he of course was to make a great contribution not merely to the literature of his own country but to that of the world. Yet he could never devote himself wholly to literature as such. He had a passion to remake the world; obstacles existed only to be swept aside.

Alexandra, Tolstoy's youngest daughter (now a woman of about 70) was the only one of his children to adopt his ideas. In his last years she was one of his closest helpers and has already written a biographical study of her father, THE TRAGEDY OF TOLSTOY. In the present, fuller study, she deals with Tolstoy as author, landlord and emancipator of his serfs, pacifist, Christian and internationalist, as well as with his stormy private life.

Memories

Although the style is hardly distinguished (and perhaps has suffered in the transition from Russian to English) Alexandra Tolstoy has done a job that could not have been carried out by even the most skilful biographer or critic. Her own memories of Tolstoy and the atmosphere at Yasnaya Polyana are most valuable.

Another extract from Tolstoy's diary—this time in 1906—may be worth quoting:

If the Russian people are uncivilised barbarians, at least we have a future. Whereas the Western peoples are civilised barbarians and they have nothing to look forward to.

Well, the Russia of 1906 has a very definite future, as we all now know, though not the Christian pacifist future of Tolstoy's dream. But Tolstoy, as well as being aware of the defects of Tsardom and the aristocracy, had no illusions about professional revolutionaries. He wrote that when the

latter got control they—

... typified all the customary corrupt effects of power: conceit, pride, ambition and, above all, a disrespect for man.

It is a sad thought that Alexandra Tolstoy should eventually have had to seek refuge in the US, where she has written this very interesting book.

THE FIRST AND LAST FREEDOM is the first considerable work by Krishnamurti, one of India's leading contemporary thinkers, who was born in 1895 in Southern India. As Aldous Huxley tells us in his preface, the main fact of Krishnamurti's teaching is that the human problem for each individual must be solved for and by himself. He believes that no dogma, no religion is sufficient of itself. Mr. Huxley summarises Krishnamurti's attitude thus:

This choiceless awareness—at every moment and in all the circumstances of life—is the only effective meditation.

Among the recent issues of the many periodicals that pour ceaselessly from the printing presses I should like to mention THE PLOUGH, the quarterly of the Bruderhof Communities. In these Communities, one in England and three in South America, people of 15 nationalities live and work together, the aim being "to unite more closely those who seek to live by the standards of justice, brotherhood and peace." The principal article in this number is "Friedrich Nietzsche and Christianity."

Background

The sub-title of CHANTICLEER, edited by the poet, Patrick Galvin, is "Literature and Life." Cecil Day Lewis, who looks like becoming the next Poet Laureate, contributes an excellent poem in memory of Dylan Thomas. One of the contributors writes on the Nazi annihilation of nearly five million Jews, a fact worth keeping in mind when German rearmament is being discussed. I should very much like to recommend CHANTICLEER (obtainable direct from 1a Warwick Place, London, W.9), one of the brave little magazines that apparently has every intention of surviving without the aid of the Daily Mirror (backer of the LONDON MAGAZINE) or the American dollars that buttress ENCOUNTER.

THE MEANING OF ARMAMENTS

So soon as you have a military class, elections are of minor importance, because they determine the political policy, and back of that political policy is the constant pressure of men trained to arms, enormous bodies of dis-

ciplined men wondering if they are never going to be allowed to use their education and their skill and ravage some great people with the force of arms. That is the meaning of armaments.

—Woodrow Wilson.

Letters to the Editor

The Third Way

THE OBSERVER, May 23, stated: "If Communist advances continue unchecked... the day will come when we are confronted with... the choice between Communist world domination and atomic world-war."

It is difficult to understand why this dangerous, misleading and defeatist either-or theory is so often found in the National Press, without any reference to the existence of at least the nucleus of an alternative way presented by the Third bloc under the leadership of Nehru.

If the mesmerised attention of the world were turned from the absurd contemplation of bigger and better H-bombs as the means of killing an idea to the neglected subject of Gandhi's philosophy and policy, the thought time and energy being wasted on armaments and futile efforts at Civil Defence could be spent in making known the metaphysical beliefs that inspired Gandhi's actions and provided the strength and power which were so evident in the social and political achievements of his remarkable life.

ESME WYNNE-TYSON.

Claremont, East Beach, Selsey.

Not Third Force

MAY I support H. G. Ede's plea (PN, June 4) that we should avoid the use of the term "Third Force" in describing an alternative policy to that of the East and West blocs. Its ambiguity is evident from a recent report in India News of a speech by Prime Minister Nehru in the Indian Parliament in which he said that India could not join a Third Force because the creation of a third power bloc would do nothing to reduce existing tensions.

If the term "Camp" sounds too static, what about the term "Third Way" which has been in use for some time in Holland.

HAROLD BING.

57 Castle Hill, East Leake, Nr. Loughborough.

Products of Capitalism

MUCH as we all welcome the Third Camp idea as a small groping attempt in the right direction, we shall do well to recognise its limitations.

Realistically the solution of our problems cannot lie outside the outcome of the struggle between the two opposing powers. Sure, totalitarian Communism is bad. But it is, like Fascism, the product of capitalism, as all existing evils are. The breakdown of capitalism will change the face of Communism.

If the Third Camp chooses to ignore this fact, it will share the fate of the labour movement, the Trade Unions, and the Churches, who have renounced their ideals and have become the backbone of capitalism and war.

ALFRED ROTH.

91 River Ave., Huddersdon.

H-bomb Campaign

THE mood of the meeting at Friends House, as I sensed it, was to do something and not sit and listen again to familiar words.

The platform talked about plans but unfolded none save the signing of a piece of paper which has led to the receipt of another.

To underline that millions of people support an issue which the government has accepted is not a "waste." It is well that the government are reminded of their promises, and those abroad informed.

Sybil Morrison says that before the petition campaign was launched, the PPU were planning a great campaign—fine. But my complaint is three fold:

1. It is very slow-a-coming.
2. The rarified atmosphere in which it will now be planned will almost certainly give it "moral superiority."

look which dominated the meeting at Friends House—and will thus be out of touch with the masses, e.g., Donald Soper's reference to the old familiar faces. The effectiveness will be much reduced for had the man in the street seen a great tide of people of good will banded together in trying to start getting a change he would have been impressed and possibly inspired. Is it too late for a change? Is it too late to recover from the fear of being called a fellow traveller, a Bevanite, or other nasty names instead of glowing in the fact that one is venerated as a pure idealist?

GEOFFREY RHODES.

470 Orpington Rd., N.21.

Why they don't sign

WITHOUT anticipating any opposition I have recently submitted the Hydrogen Bomb National Campaign petition to numerous people for signatures.

I found to my regret that a large number of the people I approached were singularly apathetic and sometimes demonstrably critical.

I endeavoured to ascertain their objections and these I found to be as follows:

1. That the Campaign is Communist inspired.
2. That we cannot hope to alter the march of progress.
3. That the more hydrogen bombs we have the less chance there will be for others to use them; it will act as a deterrent to an aggressor.
4. That a demonstration of public opinion here will have no influence on Russia, where it is alleged there is no public opinion.
5. That petitions are no use anyway: they are ignored by governments when formulating policy.

W. K. FREEMAN.

197 Conisborough Ave., Catford, S.E.6.

Peace News Campaign

LAST month the Pacifist Youth Action Group sold an average of 125 Peace News a week at meetings in London.

Does this sound a lot?

We believe that this is a fraction of what could be done if all the young pacifists in London, even all those on our roll, would turn out and do some practical Peace witnessing in the streets of London.

Five hundred copies a week is our aim. Will you join in this stimulating and worthwhile campaign?

IRENE JACOBY.

38 Westcombe Pk., S.E.3.

Christopher Fry's New Play

I WANT to point out that our philosophy is being preached just now, not only at Hyde Park Corner and in Lincoln Inn Fields, but at a West End theatre. I would beg all who cherish loveliness to go to "The Dark is Light Enough" at the Aldwych, where Christopher Fry and a wonderful company of actors will give them delight and a new strength in their faith.

Pacifists, this play is particularly our own.

BARBARA BROWN.

37 St. James Cres., S.W.9.

Field-Marshal Montgomery

FIELD-MARSHAL MONTGOMERY gives due warning that World War III may begin by mistake. As Lord Fisher used to say: "In the end, the guns go off by themselves." Such is the precarious nature of "defence" based on might.

FRANCIS J. WHITE.

Mawman, Falmouth.

THE fallacy that atomic weapons will not be used in a future war has been exploded and by no other than Field-Marshal Montgomery himself.

Now that we know where we stand what are we going to do about it?

CYRIL THORPE.

75 Kathleen Rd., Birmingham.

Mental patients, and our fate

ON behalf of my friends the Mental Patients, I should like to make protest that in your Peace News you should publish an article ("Our fate is in the hands of mental patients," PN, May 14) which seems to suggest that all mental patients are madmen.

"LUNATIC."

(Name and address supplied.)

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

As this is a free service, we reserve the right to select notices for publication. We nevertheless desire to make it as complete a service as we reasonably can, and therefore urge organisers of events to:

Friday, June 11

LONDON, S.E.9: 7.30 p.m.; 506 Fooks Cray Rd., New Eltham. Meeting to make arrangements for "Objective-Peace" demonstration at Woolwich on July 3. All those interested to help invited. PPU.

Saturday, June 12

LIVERPOOL: 8 p.m.; Pier Head. Open-air mtg. "Christianity or War." Good lively meetings. Liverpool Peace Board.
SOUTH MARSTON, SWINDON: 3.30 p.m.; Vicarage. Stuart Morris, "Ella Island and Beyond." Chalk, Canon Harman. PPU.
WEMBLEY: 3 p.m.; Garden Mtg., Barham's Pk., Harrow Rd. Rev. Lewis MacLachlan. Informal discussion. Cups of tea, bring food. Children cared for. For.

Sunday, June 13

FINSBURY PARK: 3 p.m.; 3 Blackstock Rd., N.4. Discussion on future plans. Non-violent Resistance Group.
LEYTONSTONE: Afternoon: Friends Ho., Bush Rd., Leytonstone. Garden Party. Stuart Morris, "Should Christians be Pacifists?" PPU.
RICHMOND: 3 p.m.; Volunteers required for Poster Parade through town via George St. Assembly Richmond Rly. Stn. 3 p.m. PPU.
WESTHURSTLE (nr. Dorking): 3 p.m.; The Shippen, Pilgrim's Way (close to Boxhill Stn.). Sybil Morrison, "Pacifism and the H-bomb." PPU.

Tuesday, June 15

HIGH WYCOMBE: Jumble sale: Please send parcels to: A. Farr, 139 Hughenden Rd., marked "For June 15." PPU.
MANCHESTER: 1-2 p.m.; Deansgate Blitz Site. Christian pacifist open-air mtg. Local Methodist ministers and others. MPF.

Wednesday, June 16

BATTERSEA, S.W.11: 7.45 p.m.; Lower Town Hall. Ritchie Calder, Fenner Brockway, "The Moral Challenge of the H-bomb." Supported by Wandsworth and District PPU.
BRISTOL: 7 p.m.; Friends Mtg. Ho., Broadweir. Group Study Mtg. PPU.
CRAWLEY: 7.30 p.m.; Congregational Hall, Robinson Rd. Public Mtg. Rev. Clifford Macquarie, "I saw Russia for Myself." For, PPU, SoP.
NOTTINGHAM: 1.15 p.m.; Open-air mtg. Old Market Sq. Rev. Donald Pipe and others. For, PPU.
OXFORD: 7.30 p.m.; 19 Park Rad St. "PPU Policy." PPU.

Send notices to arrive not later than Monday morning. Include: Date, Time, Place (Hall, street); nature of event; speakers; organisers (and secretary's address) —preferably in that order and style.

Thursday, June 17

HIGH WYCOMBE: 7.30 p.m.; Loudwater Recreation Hall. Speaker, Rev. R. C. Wood. Adm. free. PPU.
LEYTONSTONE: 8 p.m.; Friends Mtg. Ho., Bush Rd. Mr. Raffles, "Theatre Workshop." PPU.
LONDON, W.C.1: 1.15-1.45 p.m.; Church of St. George the Martyr, Queen Sq. Weekly lunch-hour Service of Intercession for World Peace. Conducted by clergy and laymen of different denominations.
LONDON, W.C.2: 12.30 p.m.; Lincoln's Inn Fields. Open-air mtg. Sybil Morrison. PPU.

Saturday, June 19

LONDON, S.W.18: 3-6 p.m.; Friends Mtg. Ho., Wandsworth High St. (opp. Town Hall). Garden Party. Sideshows, refreshments, etc. PPU.
OXFORD: 2.30 p.m.; 43 St. Giles. Area Mtg. Robert Davis, "Christian responsibility in a pagan world." Games and puppets for children. For.

Saturday-Sunday, June 19-20

LONDON, W.C.2: Saturday 2.30 p.m. and Sunday 3 p.m.; Westminster Friends Mtg. Ho., 52 St. Martin's Lane (Leicester Sq. Tube). Weekend School. "Pacifist Methods." Speakers: Hugh Brock, John Corrells, Patricia Hutchins. All invited. London Area PPU.

PEACE NEWS

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LATEST TIME for copy: Monday morning before publication.

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are required by the Thursday eight days prior to publication.

MEETINGS

INTERNATIONAL CLUB, Bath. Every Tuesday, 7.30 p.m. Royal Literary and Scientific Institute, 18 Queen Square, Bath. All welcome.

KING'S WEIGH MESSIAH Church, Duke St., nr. Road St. Take, Sunday at 7 p.m. The Gospel of Peace. Rev. Claude M. Coleman, MA, B.Litt.

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ANIMAL LOVERS. Homes urgently required for unwanted dogs. Smith, Quarry Ho., Heads Nook, Carlisle.

EDUCATIONAL

SPEAKING AND WRITING lessons (correspondence, visit). 5s. Dorothy Matthews, BA, 32 Primrose Hill Rd., London, N.W.3. PRImrose 5686.

LITERATURE

FOR YOUR MEETING. Don't forget that Housmans can supply all your literature requirements and quantities of Peace News. Send a postcard to Housmans Bookshop (Peace News), 3 Blackstock Rd., London, N.4.

LATEST BOOK on Kenya. "Kenya—The History of Two Nations," by Richard Pankhurst. All the facts with answers to the questions about the Kenya problem. 7s. 6d. plus 6d. postage. Independent Publishing Co., 12 Kennington Pk. Rd., London, S.E.11.

QUAKERISM. Information and literature respecting the Faith and Practice of the Religious Society of Friends, free on application to the Friends' Home Service Committee, Friends' House, Euston Rd., London.

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The engagement of persons answering these advertisements must be made through a local office of the Ministry of Labour or a scheduled employment agency if the applicant is a man aged 18 to 64, or a woman aged 18 to 59 inclusive unless he or she, or the employment, is exempted from the provisions of the Notification of Vacancies Order, 1952.

IF YOU WANT TO HELP PEACE you can't do better than give a hand at Peace News. Volunteers welcome for daytime work and evening Wednesday evenings. Write, call or ph. STA 2262. Peace News, 3 Blackstock Rd., London, N.4 (above stations, Fish & Cook). Nearest Tube Finsbury Pk.

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TO LET: Berkeley four-birth caravan. Single site. Wonderful view, one mile sea. Donkey for children. Vacant June 26-July 3 and September 4 onwards. Hutchins, Heddonsgate, Parracombe, N. Devon.

FOR REPLIES . . .

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"Most of the replies received came from advertisements in such papers as The New Statesman and Nation, Peace News and The Times Literary and Educational Supplements."

Friends Home Service Council report.

CD: FIVE QUESTIONS THAT REMAIN UNANSWERED

* From Page One

against the modern bomber, and this had led certain misguided people to say that civil defence was no good and should be done away with... he thought the old idea that the bomber would always get through was a misleading half-truth."

But he is trying to have it both ways. If bombers don't "get through," CD is unnecessary. If they do, it is hopelessly inadequate.

The Americans have recognised that it is "virtually impossible to build an airtight defence" (General Twining, Air Force Chief of Staff, to Congress, Sunday Times, April 18, 1954). They recognise also that atomic weapons do not necessarily have to be delivered by air, and recent "supervisory measures" involving US armed guards on merchant ships and naval cutters to shadow them from one US port to another are described by the US State Department as "part of restrictions designed to prevent atomic bombs, camouflaged as other objects, from entering the country." (Manchester Guardian, February 24, 1954).

After a 1,000-bomber raid

If we are to spend £140 million a year on civil defence we should at least expect that we shall get value for money. But there is official silence, both here and in the USA on such questions as these:

1. If in a 1,000-bomber raid (such as actually took place in the last war) some 50 planes, each delivering a hydrogen bomb (or even an ordinary atomic bomb) got through, how are we proposing to bury all the radio-active corpses that would be the result? Do we hope that they would be cremated?
2. If millions of corpses remain unburied for weeks, how are we going to cope with the disease that would follow?
3. If the atomic raids are accompanied or followed by germ carriers, what measures can be taken to prevent the spread of unknown or unfamiliar plagues?
4. If ports are destroyed and transport paralysed, how are food supplies to be maintained and movements of refugees away from contaminated areas controlled?
5. Are there plans for the building of deep shelters sufficient to accommodate all urban populations with a continuous supply of food to last several days at least, and the possibility of obtaining more by underground transport?

The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists (May, 1954), in an Editorial article, complains that:

"For the American people, in addition to the above discussed question of 'massive retaliation' as a major component of American military planning for all kinds of emergencies, there is the question of a multi-billion dollar investment in active ('continental') defence — radar screens,

guided missiles, and other gadgets for split-second repelling of an aerial attack. The people are entitled to know how much security—and, what is equally important, how much effective deterrent to aggression—they can buy in this way.

Obsolete exercises

"Secondly, there is the *passive* ('civil') defence. For eight years, it has been starved for funds, and its discussion on any level above that of a fire-drill has been ridiculed. Now, civil defence leaders are suddenly permitted to discover—what they should have been told officially years ago—that the go-to-the-nearest-shelter-and-stay-put philosophy of civil defence (*recently revived in this country!* K. L.) is obsolete. Are we going to waste more years on exercises of the boat-drill "abandon the ship" variety, only to discover in the end that it is senseless—even if it were possible—to march ten million New Yorkers out of the city one day, and back into the city the next day, and repeat this exodus at every alarm; or are we going to get sufficient military, economic and political information to open the long over-due debate on the only rational form of civil defence (whether as a means of protection, or as a deterrent in the atomic age—peacetime dispersal of war-essential industries, administrative units, and transportation centres. (Even this answer may become illusory if the threat should involve radioactive infestation over hundreds of miles; on this last dread possibility, too, the Government owes the people a frank statement of facts and possibilities.)"

Mr Truman's warning

Those are the questions that American scientists are asking. They are, of course, questions that have no answers as far as Great Britain is concerned.

We cannot contemplate dispersal of populations and industries both because we cannot afford to do so (even if we abandoned military preparations) and because we have no place to hide.

Commonsense, if nothing else, should warn us that, as Mr. Truman has said "War is no longer a sane man's alternative to anything."

Professor Lonsdale to broadcast on H-bomb

Professor Kathleen Lonsdale, FRS, a Peace Pledge Union Sponsor, will be broadcasting in the BBC's Third Programme on the H-bomb on June 24 at 9.45 p.m.

Title of her talk is "Thoughts on the Hydrogen Bomb."

London week-end school on 'Pacifist methods'

"PACIFIST METHODS" will be the subject for a weekend school to be held in London on Saturday and Sunday, June 19 and 20.

The first session opens at 2.30 p.m. on June 19 in the Westminster Friends Meeting House, 52 St. Martin's Lane, W.C.2, close to Leicester Square station.

The subject will be dealt with under three headings.

Discussions on the first, "Understanding" will be opened by John Corsellis, Secretary of the Educational Interchange Council.

During the war John Corsellis worked with the Friends Ambulance Unit and from 1946-7 he was in Egypt, Italy and Austria working with UNRRA.

Hugh Brock, National Chairman of the Peace Pledge Union and Assistant Editor of Peace News, will open the second session on "Direct Action," when the conference re-assembles on Sunday at 3 p.m.

The final session, on "Education," will be led by Patricia Hutchins, author and journalist.

Miss Hutchins has a particular interest in the documentary film movement as tending to give people a greater awareness of their surroundings and their implication. Her book on JAMES JOYCE'S DUBLIN arose partly from this. She is now engaged on a wider study of this author as she believes his work most important to an understanding of the individual.

The programme will allow for a social gathering on the Saturday evening.

The conference, which is being organised by the London Area of the Peace Pledge Union, was originally planned to take place at Haverhill, Suffolk. It is hoped that the shift to London will make possible a larger attendance.

Stop them being made — DOCTORS

THE British Medical Association for the Prevention of War make the following comment on the H-bomb in their bulletin:

"Possession of the H-bomb now makes it possible for a few men in the seats of power, with the assured obedience of a handful of professional soldiers, to dispense with the consent of the people and to bring about devastation by a single rapid decision.

"The will of the people must, therefore, be expressed before the bombs are made since the people are powerless to prevent their subsequent detonation."

"HALF A LOAF"

Policy, Sir, is not my principle, and I am not ashamed to say it. There is a principle above everything that is politic: and when I reflect on the command which says "Thou shalt do no murder," believing its authority to be divine, how can I dare to set up any reasonings of my own against it? And, Sir, when we think of Eternity and of the future consequences of all human conduct, what is there in this life that should make any man contradict the dictates of his conscience, the principles of justice and the laws of God?

—William Wilberforce, House of Commons, May 12, 1789.

"HALF a loaf is better than no bread" is, perhaps, one of the most mis-used proverbs in the English language. Its concluding words: "to a starving man" are seldom appended, though it is within that context, and within that context only, that it is a truism.

It is irrelevant to proposals for reductions in armaments, yet it is frequently used by those who assert that a reduction in armaments is better than no reduction. In fact this assertion implies an "either-or" which is completely false, for it is not a question of whether a policy of reduction in armaments should be followed, or nothing done at all, for that it is not the alternative.

So far as pacifists are concerned it is a question of whether a reduction in armaments

is a step towards total disarmament, and if it is not, then all possible energy and time should be employed in demanding the establishment of that principle as an ultimate end.

If the present call for a reduction in armaments were based upon the principle of renouncing armaments altogether then it would indeed be something that pacifists could, and should, wholeheartedly support. But it is not so. At present no such principle underlies the unanimous decision in the House of Commons to call for a Three Power conference to discuss "the problem of reduction and control" of armaments, but only a policy of expediency based upon the fear of the Frankenstein monster that war, and belief in war, has created.

Unless it is undertaken with abolition as the end in view then it is, as it has always been in the past, a move of expediency and without value; indeed, rather than a step in the right direction it can very easily be a permanent stop in the way of abolition. Only when abolition has been agreed, can reduction be looked upon as the first step.

Yet, it is considered by many that to get the public to put their signatures to a demand for heads of States to agree to discuss multilateral reduction is something worth doing; it is in fact believed to be that much needed step in the right direction.

I know that many eminent pacifists of the utmost integrity, support this view; nevertheless I believe them to be mistaken.

It is alleged that this is something the public can understand, and that it is useless to expect the "man-in-the-street" to accept pacifism; therefore, it is better to plump for the "half loaf." I believe the intelligence of the "man-in-the-street" is too often underrated, and one thing is certain, he never will understand, let alone accept the pacifist position so long as pacifists insist upon offering him palliatives instead of principles.

What happens if after the half loaf, there is no more forthcoming? The starving man must die. And what more is there in this matter of reducing armaments? It is thought expedient to do something in view of the fears aroused by the experiments with the hydrogen bomb, but wars have been fought without such weapons: machine guns, shells and bayonets were sufficient for the slaughter of the Somme and Paschendale.

Does anyone really believe that a policy of arms reduction unless based upon a moral principle, will in fact lead to abolition? If not, then time, energy and money should not be thrown away upon following a political expedient.

"What is there in this life," spoke Wilberforce from the floor of the House of Commons, when pleading for the abolition of slavery, "that should make any man contradict the dictates of his conscience." Public opinion is a strange and an unpredictable factor; it could be aroused. It is the job of the pacifist to offer to it the great adventure of following a moral principle to its logical end—the abolition of war.

LAURENCE HOUSMAN

● From page four

was so successful, that the military authorities took the greatest care it should not happen again; and before the second Christmas they made a sudden shift in the Forces to ensure that such a successful scandal should not happen again.

The other instance was during the Paris Conference after that war, when (to defeat President Wilson's proposals for a negotiated peace, which were the terms on which the Germans laid down their arms), a dictated Peace, was treacherously substituted; and, to enforce it, all trade with Germany was stopped including shipping and sea-fishing; with the result that German children were starving to death. And that abominable device was defeated. How? By our British Tommies, who, against orders, shared their rations with the starving children!

With these two examples of the power of good honest human nature over the depravity of war mongering politicians to hearten us, let us have courage to present before the eyes of the whole world an example of practical Peace-Making on the largest possible scale, with a Peace Army giving free service to friend and foe alike; and the word "foe" will then cease to have a meaning; and World Peace will become far more possible, and far, far nearer than it seems to be today.

They want a band and a van

TWO soldiers bought copies of Peace News from the Pacifist Youth Action Group on Sunday. At Hyde Park, apparently, the "waging peace" war cry of "half price to members of the forces" had paid at least two dividends.

Moral support gained, however, does not compensate for physical support lost. A faulty sprocket in the speaker's platform very nearly brought the PYAG spokesman down to the level of his audience.

And at an informal meeting, afterwards, an appeal was made to all the professional and amateur craftsmen, musicians, artists and mechanics associated with the Peace movement.

Craftsmen to help design and build bigger and better platforms; musicians to form themselves into a band to speed the forthcoming series of PYAG poster processions; artists to produce the requisite poster boards and banners; and mechanics and electricians to service the films PYAG has started to show and to service the van PYAG intends to buy.

"It seems strange," said Tony Blackmore, "that in a movement in which many members pride themselves on spinning their own yarn and solving their own shoes, so few apply their creative activities to pacifist propaganda. If pacifists have something to say, they should ensure that it is heard."

Laughing out McCarthy

TENS of thousands of green feathers have been distributed across the USA in a novel campaign against McCarthy.

Started by a Baptist minister and four students at the University of Indiana and now supported by American pacifists, the campaign arose as a protest against the Indiana Textbook Commission's banning of "Robin Hood" as subversive literature.

Taking the green feather, symbolic of "Robin Hood's Band of Merry Men," for a modern-day symbol of opposition to McCarthy and McCarthy-like techniques, student humour may be a real force in laughing McCarthy and his followers out of power, reports the American Peacemaker.

Supplies of green feathers and green feather buttons may be obtained by writing to: Green Feather Campaign, Baptist Youth Centre, University of Indiana, Bloomington, Indiana.

CALLING LUTON AND DISTRICT

PEACE PLEDGE UNION Field Worker Mrs. Ethel Lewis will be visiting Luton from June 12 to 19.

She would be grateful for offers of help with transport to outlying areas. She hopes to contact people wishing to join in peace activity in the neighbourhood.

Letters may be addressed to her c/o. Poste Restante, Luton, Beds.

Published from 3 Blackstock Rd., London, N.4, by Peace News Ltd. Printed by Fish & Cook Ltd., The Godwin Press (C.U.), 135 Fonthill Rd., London, N.4.

They will pray for peace in 48 languages

ON Wednesday June 16, the third anniversary of World Invocation Day, thousands of men and women of many different faiths and nationalities throughout the world, will voice the following prayer.

From the point of Light within the Mind of God
Let light stream forth into the minds of men.
Let Light descend on Earth.
From the point of Love within the Heart of God
Let love stream forth into the hearts of men.
May Christ return to Earth.
From the centre where the Will of God is known
Let purpose guide the little wills of men—
The purpose which the Master knows and serves.
From the centre which we call the race of men
Let the Plan of Love and Light work out,
And may it seal the door where evil dwells.
Let Light and Love and Power restore the Plan on Earth.
"The Great Invocation" as the prayer is called, has been used daily since 1945 by increasing numbers of individuals and groups and is now offered in 48 official language translations in 60 countries.

Millions of copies of this world prayer have been distributed by volunteers all over the world, the sponsoring group, "World Goodwill" reports.

International Headquarters are at 38 Broadweir Down, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, England.

Quakers will not sign California Loyalty Oaths

TWO Quaker meetings in California, USA, at Orange Grove and Berkeley, have declined to sign the special declaration of non-disloyalty required by the State of California of religious and non-profit organisations who wish property tax exemption.

The letter from Berkeley Meeting to the tax assessor says in part:

"... freedom of religion is seriously endangered when prescribed loyalty declarations are required by the State from religious groups."

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DONALD O. SOPER, M.A.
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UNION OF THE FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION
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